I shall at once make enquiries as to why the Ezhavas who have been for so many years, I might almost say, for centuries, distinguished *Vaidyans* are not adequately represented in the Ayurveda Department as you say. Wherever possible, I shall see that well qualified and distinguished Ezhava *Vaidyans* are admitted into the Ayurveda Department.

179. Kammalas and the Public Service.

MR. K. NARAYANAN ASARI (*Member, Nominated*) said that he had to say only what he said at the previous session of the Assembly; for, however much it might be repeated, he doubted if any good would result from it. The Kammalas feared whether their disabilities could be wholly removed. That they were not progressing even slowly was the result of the attitude of the Government towards them. The departmental heads were even unkind to the few qualified members of the community who sought Government service. When that was the attitude of the officers of the Government, how could a community hope to progress. Dewan Mr. Raghaviah promised to show special consideration in the matter of Government appointments to communities backward in education and material wealth. But the promise was never fulfilled and none of the applicants, whose list was also presented to the Dewan was appointed in the service. On the other hand, several appointments had since then been made superseding the claims of those applicants. No decision was come to on the application, dated the 29th Chingam, 1101, of Mr. B. Krishnan Asari for promotion as an Excise Inspector. No action was also taken on the application made direct to the Dewan. The Member did not want to make a long list of disappointed men of his community. The Government should issue stringent circulars to provide applicants from the backward communities suitable places in the service. He also mentioned the names of Messrs. Umamahesvaran B. A. (Hons.), and Janardanan B. A., and said that they were not able to get a place anywhere in the State service. There was a Tutor's vacancy in the College. Umamahesvaran, the first Honours graduate from the community should be appointed to that place.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Narayanan Asari, all these matters will be placed on record and considered.

180. Public Service.

MR. K. I. KOCHEEPPAN MAPPILLAI (*Member, Nominated*) said that the real test of a progressive administration was the removal of inequalities of opportunities for service. It was with a view to afford equality that His Highness the late Maha Raja commanded the separation of the Devaswoms from the Revenue Department. The results have not been as beneficent as anticipated, for in the Tiruvalla taluk which might be taken as an illustration, of the 29 *Proverthikars*, 31 accountants and 58 peons employed in the 29 *Pakuthi* Cutcherries in the taluk, there were only two Christians and one Brahmin. Similar conditions prevailed also in the neighbouring taluks. The present Peishkar was doing his best to remove this anomaly. The Christians of Tiruvalla are numerically more than twice as strong as the Nairs; and the present state of affairs is the cumulative result of the series of appointments made in years past by successive Peishkars and Tahsildars. The Member did not desire to bring down the position of the Nairs, and was well aware of their prominent social, economic and political status. In the same way, Brahmins had earned the regard of all classes of people in the State. It was a Brahmin who conferred rights of ownership of land on the ryots; it was another Brahmin who founded the Popular Assembly. He only wanted that it should not appear that one particular community was excluded from service and that a remedy should soon be discovered. A list of officers in the Revenue Department should be got down and orders issued to confine future appointments to the unrepresented communities on the basis of population.

The Devaswom Department was not open to all classes; but it was being used as a stepping stone or short cut to higher appointments in the Revenue Department. This arrangement has aggravated the evil. The Devaswom Department had enough officers of all grades to be constituted into a separate and self-contained service. The transfer or promotion of officers from the Devaswom Department to other departments should be discontinued.

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